

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

LOCARNINI et al

Serial No. 09/306,420

Filed: May 6, 1999

Title: VIRAL VARIANTS AND METHODS FOR DETECTING SAME

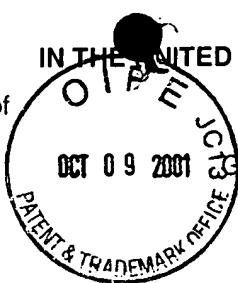
Atty Dkt. 2551-28

C# M#

Group Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: Mosher, M.

Date: October 9, 2001



RECEIVED

OCT 12 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE/AMENDMENT/LETTER

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

Fees are attached as calculated below:

Total effective claims after amendment	28	minus highest number		
previously paid for	43	(at least 20) =	0 x \$ 18.00	\$ 0.00
Independent claims after amendment	8	minus highest number		
previously paid for	13	(at least 3) =	0 x \$ 84.00	\$ 0.00
If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$280.00 (ignore improper)				\$ 0.00
Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$400.00/2 months; \$920.00/3 months)				\$ 920.00
Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00				\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> First/second submission after Final Rejection pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(a) (\$740.00)				\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Please enter the previously unentered , filed				
<input type="checkbox"/> Submission attached				
			Subtotal	\$ 920.00
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract				-\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims "small entity" status. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed herewith				
Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00)				\$ 0.00
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)				\$ 0.00
Other: Certified Copy of Priority Document; Copy of Sells article				0.00
			TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED	\$ 920.00

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100
BJS:eaw

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.
By Atty: B. J. Sadoff, Reg. No. 36,663

Signature: 

RECEIVED

OCT 12 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

LOCARNINI et al

Serial No. 09/306,420

Filed: May 6, 1999

For: VIRAL VARIANTS AND METHODS FOR DETECTING
SAME



Atty. Ref.: 2551-28

Group: 1648

Examiner: Mosher, M.

#20
Ext. (zmas.)
+
Amend w/ attach.
10/15/01

October 9, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Official Action dated April 9, 2001, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested; the period for response having been extended up to and including October 9, 2001, by submission of the requisite petition and fee, attached.

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1-31, without prejudice.

Add the following claims:

--32. (new). An isolated HBV mutant comprising a nucleotide mutation in a gene

encoding a DNA polymerase or part thereof, resulting in at least one amino acid

addition, substitution and/or deletion in the part of said DNA polymerase consisting